

REMARKS

Claims 1, 9, and 14 are amended herein to recite that the table of rows and columns is a two-dimensional table. Support for this amendment is found in the application as filed, at paragraph 0002. The claims are further amended to recite the definition of the table (comprising rows and columns) in the body of the claims as well as in the preamble, to obviate any question that such definition carries patentable weight. No new matter is added.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,868,528 to Roberts ("Roberts"). "[A] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Roberts fails to disclose every element of claims 1, 9, or 14.

All independent claims, as amended, recite a two-dimensional table comprising a plurality of rows and columns. A portion of the table is displayed in a viewable area of a window. For at least one displayed row, information from one or more said columns outside the viewable area is displayed in a hovering row. The columns displayed in the hovering row are thus unambiguously columns of the two-dimensional table, which lie outside of the viewable area of the window.

Roberts discloses displaying hierarchical data in hovering tables. See, e.g., the Abstract:

A graphical user interface for displaying hierarchical data, such as extensible markup language (XML) data, in hypertext markup language (HTML) format in a convenient and efficient manner. For data having subordinate data, an actuatable subordinate data indicator is displayed on the user interface. When actuated, the subordinate data is displayed in a similar format as the parent data. . . .

As the terms “subordinate” and “parent” make clear, the data Roberts displays in hovering tables is not “information from one or more said columns,” as recited in claims 1, 9, and 14, where “said” refers to columns of a two-dimensional table.

Roberts makes the distinction between various “levels” of data clear throughout its disclosure. “Each of the rows 206a-206j represents a first level of data items in a hierarchical data set . . .” col. 6, lines 22-23. “The subordinate data indicator 212 is an actuatable icon that, when actuated, displays a subordinate level of data in the hierarchical data set.” col. 6, lines 48-49. “[I]f any of the subordinate data indicators in column 208f is actuated, then a second level of data will be displayed . . .” col. 6, lines 44-46. Referencing Fig. 3, “The second-level data is displayed in a table 300 similar to the first-level data . . .” col. 7, lines 2-4. Referencing Fig. 4, “Third-level data items are displayed in a table 400 that is similar to the table 300 shown in FIG. 3.” col. 7, lines 24-25. See also, Fig. 5, block 500 (Set Current Level = 1) and block 510 (Current Level = Current Level + 1), and Fig. 6, block 614 (Build And Insert Subordinate Table).

Not only does Roberts clearly disclose levels of data, it only discloses displaying subordinate levels of data in a hovering table, upon actuating a subordinate data indicator in a column of a higher level table. Nowhere does Roberts disclose or suggest that data from the same level of a table – such as data that lies outside a viewing area – may be displayed in a hovering structure. As notoriously well known in the art, a two-dimensional table has only one level, and hence claims 1, 9, and 14 inherently require that the data displayed in hovering rows is data from non-displayed columns of the same “level” table.

Since Roberts fails to disclose displaying information in a hovering row from one or more columns of a two-dimensional table that lie outside a viewing area, claims 1, 9, and 14 define patentable novelty over the art of record. Accordingly, prompt allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward H. Green, III", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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Edward H. Green, III
Registration No.: 42,604

P.O. Box 5
Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 854-1844
Facsimile: (919) 854-2084